

missioner or Town Commissioners of La Plata and they shall make their returns accordingly. Any candidate or candidates for Town Commissioners of La Plata or any other voter of the said town of La Plata feeling himself or themselves aggrieved at the result of said election as declared charging fraud or irregularity on the part of the election officials in the allowing of persons to vote not entitled to vote or in refusing the right to vote to persons entitled to vote or in the manner of conducting said election; or in the counting of the said ballots; or in the making of the returns of said election, or in doing any other act to defeat the will of the qualified voters or attempting to vote at any election for Town Commissioners for said town of La Plata, may appeal from the decision of the judges of election within thirty days from the day of the holding of any such election to the judges of the Circuit Court for Charles County and said judges of the Circuit Court for Charles County are given jurisdiction to hear and determine all such contests. The manner of appeal shall be by petition accompanied by an affidavit of the petitioner or petitioners setting forth the grounds of appeal and the said Circuit Court for Charles County shall proceed forthwith in a summary way and with or without answer, pleading or technically to take testimony orally or otherwise to hear and determine the matter of said contest and declare who was or were the duly elected Town Commissioner or Town Commissioners of La Plata and certify its judgment to the Town Commissioners of the said town of La Plata.

The judges of the Circuit Court for Charles County when so certified to the Town Commissioners of said Town of La Plata shall be spread upon the minutes of the proceedings of the said Town Commissioners of La Plata, and upon said appeal the petition, the petitioner, or petitioners, as the case may be declared, the duly elected Town Commissioners of La Plata and they shall supersede all persons acting or alleged in that capacity.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That this Act is hereby declared to be an emergency law and necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health and safety, and having been passed by a ye and nay vote, supported by three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses of the General Assembly, the same shall take effect from the date of its passage.

Approved May 4, 1943.